they might make Trivandrum the chief centre of their activities. The officers of the bureau might also visit other municipalities. Government should give a substantial grant-in-aid to the Trivandrum municipality in order to enable it to undertake this work. If it was considered that the municipality was incompetent to undertake it the Medical Department and the Sanitary Department might be combined into a Public Health Department and the work entrusted to it.

Baby week celebrations should be held in every municipality, and poor houses should be provided for the use of beggars. The proceedings for opening a tuberculosis sanitarium should be expedited.

In regard to hospitals, there should be expert doctors in the General Hospital, Trivandrum. Not only that, specialists in the treatment of diseases connected with the nose, the throat, teeth etc. should be appointed in the hospital. Central institutions on the model of the General Hospital should be opened in important towns in the State.

The establishment of a separate Women's Medical Service was an absolute necessity. Pending the establishment of this new department, qualified women doctors and nurses, of whom there were many in the State, should be appointed in the more important hospitals. The Kozhanchery hospital was one such institution. The member mentioned in passing the need of establishing an Ayurveda dispensary or hospital at Maramon.

In regard to schools, hygiene and public health should be included in the curricula of studies in training schools. The hours of instruction in primary schools should be from 7 A. M. to 10 A. M. Provision should be made for mid-day meals for poor school boys. So far as medical inspection of school boys was concerned, the present system was defective in so far as there was no special staff appointed for the purpose. A group of doctors should be specially deputed to do this work and they should be posted in the important district hospitals of the State.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Dr. Koshy Palakunnathu, the first part of your representation consists of several items relating to public health and sanitation generally. These points will all come up for consideration when, as I hope, before long, the question of improving and co-ordinating measures in this direction is taken up for consideration in consultation with others.

The point you mention in regard to school children and their hours of attendance at school will be considered in due course. I understand that the question of mid-day meals for school children has been taken up independently by persons who are engaged in education.

The possibility of appointing a woman doctor and a nurse at Kozhancheri and in other District Hospitals where they are not now appointed will also be considered.

58. Education.

MR. SANKARA PILLAI MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Member, Vaikom taluk*) said that the proposed committee for revising the present system of education should be appointed at once with the Dewan as president. No one who was now in the Education Department should sit on the committee.

As regards head masters of English schools, the member stated that all was not well with some of them. But no interest was evinced by Government in the matter. In the case of the Vaikom headmaster, for instance, Government did nothing, though there were a number of complaints against him.

The member then made the following suggestions :

1. The appointment of Inspector of English schools should be done away with. The Director himself could inspect the English schools.

2. No principal of a college should be appointed as the Director of Public Instruction.

3. Instruction up to form III should be given in the vernacular, and a public examination should be held in form III.

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4. School fees should be made payable in eleven instead of eight instalments.

5. The minimum pay of vernacular school teachers should be fixed at Rs. 20 per mensem.

6. Qualified women should be appointed in all departments.

7. The Dewan should make a personal enquiry about the recent incidents in the Arts College.

8. Better encouragement should be accorded to the development of malayalam short-hand and typewriting.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Sankara Pillai Madhavan Pillai, as you did not, in your notice of subjects, give any sort of indication as to the lines on which you were going to make your representation it was not possible for the Government to prepare material beforehand for replies to your representation today. All that I can do is to assure you that the suggestions you have made will be brought on record and will receive adequate consideration.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 1·53 P. M. and re-assembled at 3. P. M.

59. Defects of the Namputiri Bill.

MR. CHENNAN DAMODARAN NAMPUTIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Kottayam Division*) urged for the rejection of the Namputiri Bill and said that the Bill had not the approval of the vast majority of the community. It was of no avail to say that the author of the Bill had the mandate of the Namputiri Yogakshema Sabha. That association had long ago ceased to reflect the opinion of the elite of the community. Most of the prominent members of the community in and outside Travancore, among whom was the Azhuvanchery Tamprakal himself, had repudiated the Bill. For these reasons the member requested that the Bill should be rejected by Government.

DEWAN'S REPLY: The representation will be considered.

60. Development of agriculture.

MR. K. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group I*) speaking on the development of agriculture first urged the reduction of the water cess levied on the ryots in Nanjinad. The original investment on the Kodayar Project was estimated at Rs. 80 lakhs. Out of this certain deductions had to be made to estimate the amount of money which must be considered as being invested in the project. The amounts to be deducted were :

(*a*) Rs. 3 lakhs representing the investment on the R. B. Channel ;
(*b*) Rs. 3 lakhs representing the investment on works since abandoned;
(*c*) Rs. 10 lakhs realised from the sale of tank beds ;
(*d*) Rs. 25½ lakhs for 17 years from 1084 to 1102 at Rs. 1½ lakhs per annum on account of *Karivu* remissions ;
(*e*) Rs. 9 lakhs at ½ a lakh per annum spent by the Irrigation and the P. W. Departments on repair of tanks, flood relief, etc.
(*f*) Rs. 1 lakh realised by sale of poramboke lands.

The total amount already realised from the original investment was thus very nearly Rs. 52 lakhs. When this amount was reduced from Rs. 80 lakhs, the capital remaining was only Rs. 28 lakhs. The water-cess which Government were levying was to be regarded as part-payment towards this balance of Rs. 28 lakhs. But Government were investing even bigger amounts in other public works. There was therefore no justification in levying water-cess from the ryots of Nanjinad.

In regard to the rates of land-tax prevalent in Nanjinad, the member stated that they were far higher than the rates prevailing in the neighbouring districts of British India and in other parts of Travancore. The rate of land-tax on the paddy

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